

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02039 241620Z

43

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 USIA-06 PA-01 PRS-01 IO-10 /031 W

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R 241440Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2319

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: TUTANKHAMUM EXHIBITION

REF: STATE 26096 AND 36330

1. MUKHTAR HAS BEEN DIFFICULT TO FIND LAST FEW WEEKS, BUT AMBASSADOR TALKED WITH HIM BRIEFLY LAST NIGHT AT UNESCO RECEPTION. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT PROBLEM FACED BY DEPT IN TRYING TO PROCEED WITH PLANNING FOR REFERENCE EXHIBIT BECAUSE OF HIS RECENT SUGGESTION THAT THERE BE ONLY FOUR INSTEAD OF FIVE SITES (CAIRO'S 1181). BASED ON EARLIER STATEMENT TO PAO, DEPT HAD ALREADY APPROACHED NATIONAL GALLERY, METROPOLITAN, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, FIELD MUSEUM--UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO COMBINE AND LOS ANGELES IN EFFORT TO BEGIN ORGANIZATION OF EXHIBIT. REPRESENTATIVES OF THOSE MUSEUMS ARE SCHEDULED MEET IN FEBRUARY TO WORK OUT DETAILS. AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED MUKHTAR RECONSIDER MATTER AND AGREE TO AT LEAST FIVE SITES.

2. MUKHTAR WAS HIS USUAL VAGUE SELF. HE WANTS INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO SPECIFY ONLY FOUR SITES, BUT AFFIRMED THAT THEREAFTER A FIFTH SITE CAN QUIETLY BE SLIPPED IN. HE DOES NOT RPT NO WANT TO GO BEYOND FIVE SITES. HE WANTS TO HANDLE MATTER IN THIS SOMEWHAT DEVIOUS FASHION SINCE SOVIETS ARE STILL PRESSING HIM TO AGREE TO ONE OR TWO ADDITIONAL SITES IN USSR OVER AND ABOVE THE THREE ORIGINALLY SPECIFIED. HE FEARS THAT IF FIVE SITES FOR THE US ARE NOW ANNOUNCED, SOVIETS WILL DEMAND SIMILAR TREATMENT.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 02039 241620Z

3. SO FAR AS LOCATIONS ARE CONCERNED, MUKHTAR AGAIN  
SOPKE OF WASHINGTON OR PHILADELPHIA (HE SAYS NO POINT IN  
BOTH), CHICAGO, LOS ANGELES, METROPOLITAN (FINAL EXHIBIT), AND,  
FOLLOWING A RECENT APPROACH BY LOUISIANA CONGRESSMAN, HE  
NOW ALSO MENTIONS POSSIBILITY OF A NEW ORLEANS MUSEUM.  
HE SAID NOTHING ABOUT BOSTON OR SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUMS,  
WHICH WE UNDERSTAND HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST. HE  
ASKS THAT USG DECIDE LOCATIONS BESED ON ITS JUDGEMENT OF  
WHERE EXHIBIT MIGHT MOST EFFECTIVELY BE SHOWN AND REALIZE  
SOME FINANCIAL PROCEEDS.

4. MUKHTAR INDICATED AWARENESS THAT BOTH NATIONAL  
GALLERY AND LOS ANGELES COUNTRY MUSEUMS ARE UNABLE  
CHARGE ADMISSION. IT IS HIS VIEW THAT EACH OF THESE TWO  
MUSEUMS SHOULD PAY THE EQUIVALENT OF WHAT THE EXHIBIT  
WILL EARN AT A PAYING LOCATION, E.G. IF EXHIBIT EARNS  
\$200,000/250,000 IN, SAY, CHICAGO, SAME AMOUNT SHOULD  
BE PAID BY NATIONAL GALLERY AND LOS ANGELES MUSEUMS.  
HE IS CONCERNED THAT EXHIBITION EARN SOME REVENUE FOR  
DIRECTORATE OF ANTIQUITIES.

5. DEPT MAY WISH DISCUSS ABOVE WITH MUSEUM REPRESENTATIVES  
DURING LATE FEB MEETING.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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